



Nov. '05 Placements

2 Admitted

3 Discharged

4 Admitted

Group Homes:

8 Children

2 Admitted

18 Children

0 Discharged

39 Children

5 Admitted

1 Discharged

Regular Foster Care:

65 Children

Treatment Foster Care:

30 Children

3 Discharged

1 Discharged

Residential Care Facilities:

1 Admitted

Relative Placements:

Bob Alioto

262-548-7262

Kathy and Pat have been foster parents

Berlin. Kathy and Pat are proud parents of six children and have adopted three

of them. They also are the very proud

grandparents of twin girls! Kathy has been a Registered Nurse for 30 years,

Children's Hospital and currently at Waukesha Memorial Hospital. Pat is the Sales Manager at Dodge City South and

Kathy and Pat decided to be foster par-

because they wanted to help children in need. They knew how many children

needed loving homes and they wanted

being foster parents they have had 30

placements. They have taken care of

medically needy and special needs chil-

dren and have taught all of the children

to provide that. In their 20 years of

ents instead of having more kids

working at Milwaukee County,

has been there for 30 years.

for twenty years. They live in New

Peggy Beisser

262-548-7261 Kathe Blum

Social Workers:

262-548-7275

Barb Hufschmidt

262-548-7270 Margaret Johnson

262-548-7265

Suzanne Koberstein 262-548-7348

Elizabeth Russo

262-548-7349

Kim Sampson

262-548-7273 Linda Senger

262-548-7698

Marilyn Vidergar

262-548-7363

Ted Wuerslin 262-548-7269

Jennifer Wygle 262-548-7260

in their house how take care of them, so

Even as veterans, the PACE training gave

Kathy and Pat new insights on a lot of things. They learned a lot and thought it

was absolutely wonderful and men-

tioned that the class was done very

In-between working as a nurse and

being a mom and watching her granddaughters, she likes to spend time gar-

dening and reading. Pat loves to golf

Kathy's advise to new foster parents is

to be open minded, try to respect the

biological parents no matter what the

circumstances and work with them as

threatening. Give lots of love to all the

kids and have a good sense of humor!

much as possible and try not to be

everyone can help out.

and watch football

For more information about becoming a foster parent in Waukesha County, please contact Shari Rather at:

We Need You!

srather@waukeshacounty.gov 262-548-7267 or visit our web-

www. waukeshacounty.gov and follow the links to foster

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Foster Care Forum Waukesha Health & Human Services 500 Riverview Ave. Waukesha 53188 262-548-7212 www.waukeshacounty.gov.

What's Inside: January 2006...

Foster Parenting Tax Benefits

Contact Numbers:

Eve Altizer Children's Mental

Waukesha H & HS

262-548-7212

Health Outreach

262-548-7310

414-848-6711

Judy David

414-671-3747

262-548-7271

Shari Rather

262-548-7267

Amber Kosek,

262-896-6849

Crisis Mentoring Pager

Medical Emergency; 911

Family Emergency: 211

Support Group President

(home) 414-462-8446

Lisa Alden, Supervisor

Foster Care Coordinator

Visitation Coordinator

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· Jesse's Corner

Social Worker Spotlight - Kim Sampson

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Toast to 2006

Internet Safety

• FP Spotlight - Kathy and Pat McLaughlin

Placements

Contacts

Would you like to receive this newsletter via e-mail instead of mail? Please e-mail: srather@waukeshacounty.gov to complete this request. You can also find it online at















Foster Care Forum

Thank You So Much to our Holiday Contributors for the Christmas gifts provided to our foster children!

The Employees at GE Medical provided lovely Christmas gifts to all the foster children 12 and under.

Oconomowoc Junior Women's Club for the gift bags for the foster children.

Greater Milwaukee Realtor Association for the Duffel Bag, diapers and toiletries.

SBC for the Duffel bags.

Waukesha Kiwanis Club for the Christmas Stockings for all the foster children.

Menomonee Falls Garden Club gave Christmas Gifts for Foster Kids.

Tax Information

for Foster Parents!

As you plan for April 15, we urge you to do all you can to take advantage of tax savings that might be available to you as a foster, adoptive, or kinship caregiver. A great place to check before starting your taxes is the website of the National Foster Parent Association, especially their page at:

http://www.nfpainc.org/ref/taxes.cfm?page=5

Are Foster-care Payments Tax Exempt?

Yes, according to Internal Revenue Code Section 131. If you are providing foster care and receive qualified foster-care payments, you do not need to list them as part of your gross income. So they are, in effect, exempt from income tax. However, you must include in your income any payments received for more than five qualified foster individuals who are 19 or older and difficulty-ofcare payments received for more than 10 qualified foster individuals under age 19 or more than five qualified foster individuals age 19 or older.

More foster care payments can be excluded from your taxable income under a recently passed law. The law now:

Includes foster care payments made to you by any placement agency licensed or certified by your state or local government or any entity designated by that state or local government to make such payments. (Previously the payments had to be from the government itself or from a tax-exempt placement agency in order to be tax-free.)

Considers more individuals to be "foster care individuals," a definition that includes individuals placed by a qualified foster-care placement agency regardless of whether the individual is under 19 at the time of placement. (Previously the age 19 requirement applied in order for the payments to be taxfree.)

Where Can We Find Out More? For additional information, read the following IRS publications, which are available from the IRS in print form or on the IRS Web site.

Publication 17. Your Federal Income Tax (This is a large book that provides information on a wide variety of income tax topics.) Publication 501, Exemptions, Standard Deduction, and Filing Information Publication 503, Child and Dependent Care

Publication 526: Charitable Contributions Publication 556: Examination of Returns. Appeal Rights, and Claims for Refund Publication 587: Business Use of Your

Publication 596: Farned Income Credit Publication 929: Tax Rules for Children and Dependents

Publication 968: Tax Benefits for Adoption Publication 970: Tax Benefits for Education Publication 972: Child Tax Credit

Jesse's Corner Division

As we begin 2006, I want to thank you and your family for your dedication and support to fostering the most needy and vulnerable children in our community during 2005. Without your willingness to share you home more children would be placed in more restrictive and high cost settings. I'm writing this article on Friday, December 09, 2005 the final day of our Quality Service Review (QSR). What a week! A lot of things were going on including the Foster Parent Focus Group and the Foster Child Focus Group. I want to thank those foster parents, as well as the youth (we had 5 teenagers in foster care attend) for participating. I've heard the comments and suggestions made were very valuable. Once we get our report, I anticipate we'll be following up on any recommendations to enhance our working relationship. I hope to have an opportunity to share the results and recommendations. At this point, I'm not sure how we will do that. Please make any suggestions to your social worker or Lisa Alden, Permanency Services Supervisor. Either way, stay tuned, as we plan on sharing what we've learned about our practice!

I want to wish you and your family a Happy New Year and look forward to a prosperous and happy 2006!

Waukesha County Department of Human Services Presents the Winter Session of PACE Training 2006

February 2, 2006 6:15 pm to 9:15 pm

February 4. 2006 8:30 am to 11:30 am 12:30 pm to 3:30 pm

February 18, 2006 8:30 am to 11:30 am 12:30 pm to 3:30 pm

March 4, 2006 8:30 am to 11:30 am 12:30 pm to 3:30 pm

March 18, 2006 8;30 am to 11:30 am

8;30 am to 11:30 am 12:30 pm to 3:30 pm

April 1, 2006 8:30 am to 11:30 am 12:30 pm to 3:30 pm Teambuilding

Child Abuse and Neglect

Child Development

Attachment, Separation, and Placement

Discipline and Behavior Management

Cultural Issues in Placement

Primary Families

Sexual Abuse

Effects of Care-giving on the Family

Permanency Issues for Children

Permanency Issues for Families

All classes will be held at Waukesha County Department of Health and Human Services located at 500 Riverview Avenue in Waukesha. Class size is limited to 24. Please call to register: 262-548-7267.

Social Worker Spotlight

Kim Sampson



Personal Information:

I've been married for almost 2 years. I have an 11 year old son, Quinton. Outside of work I enjoy jogging, shopping, reading and listening to music.

Educational Background:

I earned a BSW at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in 1998

and an MSSW at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1999.

Work Experience:

My social work career began in 1999 at Innovative Family Partnerships, Inc. (IFPI), which at the time was a contracted agency with the bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare. I worked w/ IFPI for 2 1/2 years. My job duites at IFPI were basically the same ones I have here in Waukesha county but with a slightly large case load. I began working in Waukesha County in the spring of 2001, originally in the Parent Services Unit.

What brings you the greatest joy as a social worker and why did you become a social worker?

Plain an simple: I chose social work because I wanted to help people. I don't believe I had a realistic idea of what the career choice would look like, but I care about the well being of people, especially those that are less fortunate. I came into this field with the idea that I'd be helping people attain the positive things that life can offer, but I've learned this isn't alway feasible.

Any additional comments that may help a family interested in Foster Care:

In my opinion one of the most important things for people that are interested in foster care to realize is that the biological families involved with this system are human beings. Yes, the parents we serve may have done some unbelievable things to their children or gotten themselves and their families into some

terrible situations, but that doesn't give anyone the right to demoralize them. Foster parents need to sensitive to the fact that biological parents have a right to and deserve respect.

Ongoing Training

The first of our new ongoing training will be a 6 hour training on Attachment presented by Lynn Wilkins. The location will be announced later it will be from 9 to 4. Sign up as soon as possible by calling Shari Rather @ 548-7267.

The Kid Prints Year End Contest Winner will be awared in next month's newsletter.

At the time this publication was being produced, votes were still being accepted.

Thanks and good luck to all!

\$50 will be awarded to the child that wins along with a outstanding achievement certificate!

Courtesy of Pellegrini Design

A Toast to 2006 May you have:

Enough success to keep you eager.
Enough failure to keep you humble.
Enough joy to share with others.
Enough trials to keep you strong.
Enough hope to keep you happy.
Enough faith to banish depression.
Enough friends to give you comfort.
Enough determination to make each
day better than yesterday.

Children, The Internet and You A Guide to Safety on the Internet for You and Your Children

Step by Step Procedure to Find Recently Visited Webpages

For Netscape Navigator

- 1) Click Start
- 2) Click Programs on the pop-up window
- 3) Click Netscape Navigator
- 4) Click Window
- 5) Click History

For MS Explorer

- 1) Click Start
- 2) Click Programs on the pop-up window
- 3) Click Microsoft Internet Explorer
- 4) Click the History button

Step by Step Procedure to Find Saved Internet Files

For Netscape Navigator

- 1) Click Start
- 2) Click Programs on the pop-up window
- 3) Click Netscape Navigator
- 4) Click Window
- 5) In the window to the right or Location type: c:\program files\netscape\navigator/cashe

For MS Explorer

- 1) Click Start
- 2) Click Programs on the pop-up window
- 3) Click Microsoft Internet Explorer
- 4) In the window to the right of the address type: c:\windows\temporary internet files